

The Honorable Ciro D. Rodriguez



After his swearing-in on April 17, 1997, Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez joined the Armed Services Committee to support our military and the special place they have in his hometown of San Antonio. He joined the Veterans' Affairs Committee to promote the rights and benefits of the more than 50,000 veterans in the 28th District who answered the call to serve.

As a United States Representative, Congressman Rodriguez works closely with local community leaders and actively fights in Congress for area military bases and for business development for large and small companies.

Top priorities include redevelopment of Kelly AFB and making Brooks AFB more valuable to the Air Force and the local community. Finding new tenants for Ft. Sam Houston and working with the Air Force to enhance missions at Randolph and Lackland AFB's are key legislative goals.

Congressman Rodriguez vigorously advocates for strengthening public education, improving benefits for veterans and military retirees, and protecting Texas farmers and ranchers. He supports protecting Social Security and Medicare, expanding access to health care, and promoting economic development and small businesses throughout South Texas.

Congressman Rodriguez has successfully obtained additional resources for regional technical assistance centers used by educators, for the National Park Service to expand and preserve the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, and for area transportation needs. He helped spearhead the successful effort to bring new health care access points for veterans in South Texas.

In the Texas House of Representatives, then-Representative Rodriguez held the chairmanship of the important Local and Consent Calendar Committee. He served on the Public Health and the Higher Education Committees, and presided as a vice-chairman of the Legislative Study Group, a coalition of progressive Texas House members.

From 1975 to 1987, Mr. Rodriguez served as a board member of the Harlandale Independent School District, worked as an educational consultant for the Intercultural Development Research Association, and served as a caseworker with the Department of Mental Health & Mental Retardation. From 1987 to 1996, he taught at Our Lady of the Lake University's Worden School of Social Work.

Congressman Rodriguez attended San Antonio College and later received his BA in Political Science from St. Mary's University in San Antonio. He received his Masters of Social Work from Our Lady of the Lake University. He and his wife of more than 20 years, Carolina Peña, have one daughter, Xochil Daria.